



Ocotillo

Weekly Update

A newsletter for the residents of Glendale's Ocotillo District



Councilmember Norma Alvarez

July 8, 2011



UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS

- **Redistricting Workshop**
Monday, July 18
4-7 p.m.
Glendale Adult Center
5970 W. Brown St.
- **Regional Public Transit Authority - Public Hearing**
Wednesday, July 13
6 p.m.
City Council Chambers
5850 W. Glendale Ave.

Boards and Commissions. The Glendale City Council has appointed several residents to serve on advisory boards and commissions. Glendale's boards and commissions assist the City Council in making important policy decisions that impact the community.

Congratulations to the following Ocotillo District residents who were appointed to serve: **Janine Barbour** (vice chair), Arts Commission and **Karen Aborne**, Library Advisory Board. Glendale's volunteer citizen advisory groups research, study and discuss specific projects and issues and then forward their recommendations to the City Council.

Residents can request an application to serve on a citizen advisory group or obtain more information by calling the Council Office at 623-930-2249 or visiting www.glendaleaz.com/boardsandcommissions. Board and commission members must reside in Glendale.

Additional Public Meeting. A Redistricting Workshop will take place on Monday, July 18, 2011, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Glendale Adult Center located at 5970 W. Brown St. The workshop is intended to provide interested citizens with hands-on training on mapping tools and direct assistance in completing their own proposed maps. [Click here](#) for more information.

Reunión Pública Adicional. Un taller sobre reconfiguración distrital se llevará a cabo el 18 de julio del 2011, de 4 p.m. a 7 p.m. en el Glendale Adult Center, ubicado en 5970 W. Brown St. Con el taller se espera proporcionarle a los ciudadanos interesados entrenamiento práctico sobre las herramientas para elaborar planos y asistencia directa para realizar los planos que vayan a proponer.

Transit Service Update. Glendale's transit services are funded through a combination of the local GO sales tax and the regional transportation sales tax. While both of these funding sources resulted in lower revenue collections than originally projected, a large regional sales tax deficit has created a severe funding gap impacting all cities in the region, including Glendale. The loss of regional revenues in conjunction with the ongoing loss of Local Transportation Assistance Funds (LTAF) and reduced local revenues has resulted in most valley cities planning transit service cuts.

Glendale staff has been successful in securing several competitive grants to help offset the funding shortfall. However, the grant funds do not solve the entire funding difference; therefore, some reductions in Glendale's transit service will need to be considered to balance the budget.

As in other valley cities, Glendale is seeking public input on most of its transit services regardless of the funding source. These services include local fixed route, express bus service, Glendale Urban Shuttle (GUS), Dial-A-Ride, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) service. The proposed changes will be developed after assessing each service for its effectiveness and for balancing the need to serve the largest number of riders, along with meeting the special needs of specific groups of riders. The potential service impact to be considered could range from frequency and time of day route adjustments to partial or full route eliminations. Specifically, the services to be considered for potential reductions or changes include:

Fixed bus routes: 70 (Glendale Ave), 80 (Northern Ave), 90 (Olive Ave), 106 (Peoria Ave), 122 (Cactus Rd.), 170 (Bell Rd.), 186 (Union Hills), 51 (51st Ave), and Grand Avenue Limited express service. Local services: GUS, Dial-A-Ride and ADA service.

These potential service changes in Glendale are included as part of a larger list of regional service cuts and will be presented for comments at several public hearings to be held by the Regional Public Transit Authority (RPTA). One of the public hearings will be held in Glendale at 6 p.m., Wednesday, July 13 at the Glendale Council Chambers, 5850 W. Glendale Ave. As with past service changes, citizen input received at the public hearings will be used to structure the final service cuts. Glendale's service changes will take effect in July 2012 along with most other cities' service changes. For more information, call 623-930-2940 or [click here](#) to complete an online comment.

Glendale Dog Park Closes on Mondays. The dog park at Northern Horizon Park, located at Northern and 63rd avenues, will be closing on Mondays to allow park staff to better maintain the area.

Users of the Northern Horizon dog park may use the dog parks at Sahuaro Ranch Park, 63rd Avenue and Mountain View Road, and Foothills Park, 57th Avenue and Union Hills Road, on Mondays.

The other amenities at Northern Horizon Park will still be available on Mondays and the dog park will reopen on Tuesday mornings.

Numbers Tell the Story of City Service! As the city of Glendale reaches the end of its fiscal year, 12 months of services and activities are captured in a variety of numbers, both large and small. Here's a sample!

- A 16% decrease in violent crime
- A 6% increase to 2.5 million rides on Glendale's transit system
- 13,239 cases handled by Code Compliance with 86% resolved within 30 days
- Almost 900,000 linear feet of yellow and white striping applied to roads by Transportation
- A record low on streetlight outages – only 74 out of 19,556
- 1,968 incidents covered by Glendale's Crisis Response Team
- 3,968 swim lessons provided by Parks and Recreation
- More than 20 million pounds recycled by Public Works, generating \$2.2 million in revenue
- 23,746 hours of service donated by Police volunteers
- 128,630 calls for service by Glendale Police Department, and 43,431 by Glendale Fire
- 126,000 visitors from 46 countries assisted by the Glendale Visitor Center
- 2,300 students learned about conservation thanks to Glendale's Environmental Resources

Each number tells a story of what it takes to serve a city of 227,000 residents. These statistics were recently captured in the video "Glendale Employees: By the Numbers," which was created by Glendale 11 TV. Visit www.glendaleaz.com for more information or to watch the video.

Around Town

Glendale Summer Band Concert – July 14. Make plans to attend the 45th annual Glendale Summer Band concert series presented by Glendale's Office of Special Events. The concerts get underway at 8 p.m. every Thursday through July 21, at the Murphy Park Amphitheater in downtown Glendale. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy a fun evening under the stars. Admission and parking are free. [Click here](#) for more information.

Christmas Comes to Downtown Glendale – July 16. Put on the sunscreen, grab the jingle bells and head to Historic Downtown Glendale for a day of sun-drenched holiday shopping. Even Santa is leaving the northern climates to enjoy this annual Christmas in July shopping event on Saturday, July 16, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

With only 161 days left to get all of your shopping for gifts and decorations complete, start early and avoid the rush! Christmas cheer begins at the Glendale Visitor Center, 5800 W. Glenn Drive, Suite 140, where you'll pick up your holiday map, coupons and gift bag (for the first 500 visitors) and take a spin on the prize wheel.

In the spirit of holiday giving, the Glendale Visitor Center will be accepting school supplies for the Annual Back-to-School Supply Drive, which will benefit local elementary schools. These items include new backpacks, pencils, colored pencils, markers, erasers, paper, folders, binders, crayons and glue.

Christmas in July also kicks off the start of decorating 1.5 million lights for the annual holiday light display, Glendale Glitters, Azcentral.com's Critics' Choice for Best Festival. The installation of the holiday lights takes more than 5,000 labor hours to complete in order to be ready for the Glendale Glitters Spectacular in November.

Admission and parking are free. For more information on a fun-filled day of holiday crafts, sweet treats and exclusive deals, call the Glendale Convention & Visitors Bureau at 623-930-4500 or [click here](#).

Contact Councilmember Alvarez

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